Gage County Man Gets Life Sentence for Murder

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(Lincoln, Neb) Attorney General Jon Bruning announced today that Richard A. Griswold, 44, of Gage County was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of 49-year-old Connie Eacret.

Griswold also received 50 years for using a firearm to commit a felony.

July 28, 2008, 8:40 p.m.

Eacret was shot in the kitchen of her Beatrice home on Nov. 17, 2007 and died later that day at a Lincoln hospital. Eacret and Griswold had been drinking the night before. Griswold shot Eacret in the right eye. Prosecutors believe Griswold killed Eacret over a love triangle.

"Mr. Griswold intended to kill Ms. Eacret," said Bruning. "He took away her life and now he can spend the rest of his behind bars."

On May 22, a Gage County jury found Griswold guilty of second-degree murder and use of a firearm to commit a felony in the shooting death.

Second-degree murder is a class IB felony. Use of a firearm to commit a felony is a class II felony. Both sentences will run consecutively.

Assistant Attorney General Doug Warner and Gage County Attorney Randall Ritnour handled the case.

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